

REMARKS

The rejections of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, are respectfully traversed. Reconsideration is requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

To the extent that the Examiner deems any section 112 issue to remain, however, he is requested to call the undersigned to arrange a personal or telephonic interview in order to address such issue and thereby expedite prosecution, particularly as the claims are not rejected over the prior art.

It also appears that the objection raised under the first paragraph of section 112 is essentially the same as that raised under the second paragraph of that section. We hope that the claim amendments and these remarks will succinctly address the Examiner's concerns. In this connection, Applicants have prepared the attached sketch to illustrate the following.

The formula set forth in Claim 1 is another expression of pure conic section curvature more commonly expressed in a classic x, y coordinate system, with x being the abscissa and y being the ordinate, as:

$$y^2 = 2Rx - (1 + Q)x^2$$

wherein R is the radius in the apex of the curvature, and Q is the asphericity of the curvature. Applicants have merely substituted p for 2R and asph for Q.

When this equation is solved for x, the resulting formula is:

$$x = \frac{y^2 / R}{1 - \sqrt{1 - (1 + Q)y^2 / R^2}}$$

Reference is made to the corresponding formula found in previously submitted U.S. Patent No. 4,504,982, where z is substituted for x and Ca represents the central lens radius as well as the equation found in previously submitted WO 01/89424 A1 (page 13), where R also represents the central lens radius. So there should be little doubt that the metes and bounds of the equation set forth in Claim 1 of this application will be fully apprehended by one of ordinary skill in the art, particularly in view of the attached sketch which shows in a schematic manner the elliptically oblong (oblate) wave front of the light propagating from the cornea of the eye through the environment of the eye towards the intraocular lens (IOL). The intraocular lens has on at least one of the lens surfaces a curvature which follows the claimed equation and is further configured such that the incoming elliptically oblongly (oblately) curved wave front is refracted into the outgoing wave with a substantially spherical wave front. Further, the x -coordinate of the claimed equation coincides with the direction of the light propagation (in the sketch from left to right) or with the direction of the lens thickness. The y -coordinate is perpendicular thereto and radially outwardly with respect to the lens center.

Attention is further directed to page 4, lines 4-21, where values of the corneal asphericity between 0 and -0.56 and values of the corneal refractive

power between 40-50 dpts are set forth. Thus, an incoming plane wave (parallel rays) is refracted by the cornea into a elliptically oblongly (oblately) curved wave front with converging rays propagating to the IOL, as shown in the attached sketch.

Unlike the prior art, the lens of the present invention is shaped such that the incoming elliptically oblongly (oblately) curved wave front, not a plane wave front as described, is refracted into an outgoing spherical wave front, wherein the lens surface has the curvature of a pure conic section without any additional correction terms. The explanation following the equation (1) at page 2, lines 10-23 of the present application clearly discloses that the curvature of the lens surface follows a pure conic sectional (i.e. ellipse, parabola, hyperbola).

In view of the foregoing, early and favorable action is now earnestly solicited.

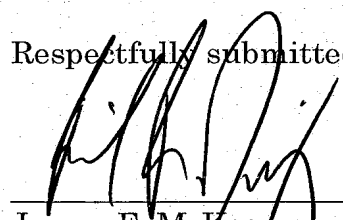
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

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If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an extension of time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #037333.57191US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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SKETCH

